

Tuna Tower News

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.

Internet Address: www.ftcfishing.com



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CONTRIBUTING EDITOR: JEFF YAPALATER

TAKE NOTE - MEETING CHANGE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, AT 7:30 PM

WESTWIND YACHT CLUB
BEDELL STREET, FREEPORT



NEXT GM CAPT AL RISTORI

World reknown fisherman, author, conservationist and saltwater activist will speak at this months general meeting at the West Wind Yacht Club. Come hear some great stories, thoughts, and passions of this saltwater legend.

DON'T MISS IT!

President's Message

Jim Rooney

October is here and we are at the end of another summer, but there is still plenty of quality fishing to do. I would like to start by thanking all the members that helped at our fall rodeo. The weather for the weekend was not the best but the rain held off long enough for a great party on Sunday. I would especially like to thank Theresa Morrogh for her help cleaning the Clubhouse and Mike Wagner for his help on the rodeo prize committee. Thank you both. I would like to also thank Raffy Ortiz for his time and equipment; smoking another great pig for the club. I want to inform all the members of the day and location change for the upcoming October GM. The GM will be held at Bedells at the West Wind Yacht club on Wednesday, October 11th at 7:30 pm. We are asking our membership to come to this location for a trial

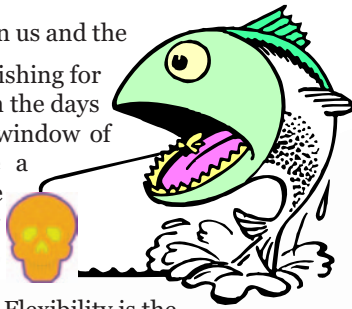
meeting. At the November GM the membership will vote on the location change. I ask that members attempt to attend both October and November GM in order to make an informative vote in decision. I believe that Bedells at West Wind will provide the club with a more comfortable and professional location. Also, remember that November is election month for our club. Anyone interested in seeking a board of directors position, see the Secretary's message in this months Tuna Tower for further information. That's about all for this month. Stay safe and remember that participation is the key to a great club experience.



Jim Rooney
President

FISHING BULLETIN

The month of October is upon us and the opportunity is gradually diminishing for planning an offshore trip. With the days starting to grow shorter, the window of weather necessary to enable a safe transit to and from the grounds has not been on our side recently, leaving many offshore chariots and their diehard crews tied to the dock. Flexibility is the name of the game at this time of the year and an offshore window of weather is no more than 48 hours, due to the volatility of the ever changing weather forecasts. For those of us who have this option the rewards can be memories of a lifetime.



On the canyon scene, when the weather has allowed, our members have reported some excellent catches of yellowfin and longfin with an occasional sprinkling of a swordfish and the ever abundant mahi. The warm water had been concentrated at the south east corner of the Hudson but gradually took on a south westward movement and was parked from the southwest corner of the Hudson, offshore and west to Toms canyon. Reports of a dozen to two dozen fish an night were very common. Find the water, find the bait and the fish came on like gang busters. Our regular canyon commuters, Wasabi, Oceanic, Mikey Likes It all reported excellent catches when the weather allowed. Both trolling during the day and chunking at night were the methods that were employed.

Our anticipated arrival of the bluefin tuna schools around the offshore scallopers and draggers was a disappointment for most. As of the writing of this report, I have not heard of any fish that were caught or seen behind these commercial boats. If this action is to develop it will be a late season event. Be mindful of the bag limits that are in effect when targeting this species. The DEC has a larger team of enforcement officers this year and a good network of obtaining information so please be cognizant of your deci-

sions.

Closer to shore our fall shark fishery has gotten started, led by junior member Breden Errit. On a recent trip aboard uncle Matt Errit's, Nicki Ann he bested a 100lb class mako. The pressure is on Matty, the word is his brother is looking for one as well. Recently, Larry Festa ran his Kristen to an area on the thirty fathom curve for a day of fall sharking. Not long into the trip they hooked a monster of a mako and after several spirited leaps, twists and greyhounds the fish earned his freedom to fight another day. The action on these fall trips can be slow, however when the rod goes off get ready for a fish that can test the skills of the most seasoned offshore crews.

On the inshore scene, seabass have taken up the spotlight. Club members Bob Demeno, Paul Schuber have teamed up for some excellent action on the areas local wrecks. This past weekend Ken Kapner and his crew sailed further offshore and returned with a cooler full up to 5.0lbs. With the opening of the blackfish season upon us they will find their way into the coolers of our club members. This fishery will continue to get better as the areas waters continue to cool down.

Bluefish continue with reckless abandon and have done so for quite some time. From 17 Fathoms west to the Mud Buoy the action can be non stop. Chumming and bait fishing will get you a limit catch in short order.

Lastly our fall striped bass run has begun. Several members have reported fish on bait in our local inlets and as the weather continues to cool down this fishery will only get better. The bunker schools are on the beach both east and west of our inlets, however the bass have not been reported to be on the schools as of yet. It is only a matter of time until the bass are on their heels.

Sincerely,
Captain Harry Weinblatt
F/V Blue Marlin

SHOOT OUT

The weekend of October 20, 21, 22 is the final shoot-out for the year against Staten Island Club. The total weight of the three heaviest Stripers from each club will determine the winner. Last year the Freeport Tuna Club took back the Trophy from Staten Island, so let's keep it here for another year or two. Good luck to all and catch them up.

PROPERTY

Winter contracts were mailed out in September and are due back with payment in full, before your boat arrives on the property. There is some limited room still available. If you need a contract see Mike Sullivan.

We are asking all boat owners with boats in the basin to remove their boats no later than November 30 and earlier is better. This is to allow the Property Committee time to remove the floating docks a prerequisite to filing the required building permits. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

FLUKE CALCUTTA

The 2006 Calcutta is officially closed! Bob Benzenberg's 11 Lb. 4 Oz. fluke let from the starting gate to the finish. A magnificent fish especially considering it was captured in the bay in non other than our Freeport, NY. This fish earned Bob \$930 and the title of the Freeport Tuna Club "Duke of Fluke" for 2006!

A NOTE FROM YOUR SECRETARY

As the tradition of our great club proves and in accordance of our By-Laws, each November's General Membership meeting proves to be one of the Freeport Tuna Club's most important meetings of the year. This year will be no exception.

Nominations for Directors will be entertained from the floor at the November meeting. The names of the candidates must be proposed by a voting member and seconded by ten voting members and presented to the Secretary in writing at least seven days prior to the November meeting. Mail nominations to:

FTC B.O.D. NOMINATIONS
C/O Chris Bellinzoni
3255 Wolfson Dr.
Baldwin, NY 11510

SEPTEMBER 2006 DERBY, AWARDS & CONTEST REPORT

Awards Chairman: Captain Lawrence J. Festa

Committee Team: Captain Michael Zullo, Mary Ellen Zullo,
Captain Chris Squeri, Joseph Jahn



The following derbies are closed and will be awarded at our GM.
Final Result are:

Fluke (02 lbs.).....June 3rd ~ July 9th
1st Place: Bob Benzenberg.....11.25 lbs. F/V Fish-n-Whitetails
2nd Place: Joe Berkland.....8.43 lbs. F/V Spitshot
3rd Place: Don Granger.....8.37 lbs. F/V Spitshot

Tuna (25 lbs.).....July 1st ~ August 5th
1st Place: Robert Rosenberg...56.5 lb. Yellowfin Tuna F/V Findictive
2nd Place: Daniel Carroll.....56 lb. Yellowfin Tuna F/V Findictive
3rd Placed Tie:

Sil Mazzilli.....47 lb. Yellowfin Tuna F/V Camille
Ralph Drewes.....47 lb. Yellowfin Tuna F/V Mikey Likes It

Mahi (04 lbs.).....July 1st ~ August 5th
1st Place: Frank Mazzilli.....26.5 lb. Mahi F/V Camille
2nd Place: Fred Ruehman.....5.7 lb. Mahi F/V Mikey like It
3rd Place.....No winners

The following Derbies are in progress or starting this month:

False Albacore (06 lbs.).....August 26th ~ September 24th
Green Bonito (04 lbs.).....August 26th ~ September 24th
Fall Mahi (04 lbs.).....August 26th ~ September 24th
Fall Weakfish (05 lbs.).....August 26th ~ September 24th
Fall Fluke (02 lbs.).....August 19th ~ September 10th
Fall Bluefish (08 lbs.).....September 2nd ~ October 1st
Fall Tuna (25 lbs.)..... September 2nd ~ October 8th
Fall Shark (125 lbs.)..... September 9th ~ October 15th
Fall Seabass (02 lbs.).....September 23th ~ October 22nd
Fall Cod (10 lbs.).....September 30th ~ December 18th

Derby News: We are winding down are season, however this is our BIGGEST DERBY MONTH OF THE SEASON!
Ten derbies in all to chose from, just image, every fish you can fish for this month can bring a prize.....all you have to do
is weigh your catch! The committee does the rest. So let's get cracking.

Derby results are usually posted on our web site before the deadline closing and followed up with a second Final Results
Posting. So please check in with the committee, it is you're responsibly to make sure we have your winning slip.

Awards & Contest News:

Our board of directors meeting show some changes in the standards for which we can achieve awards. The board has
approved a second exemption to the IGFA rules. Under the rules for Equipment: Section G sub. -1 has been amended as
follows:

G. Hooks For Bait Fishing

Sub-1 for live or dead bait fishing no more than two single hooks may be used.

EXEMPT (voted 08/16/06 & grandfather to 01/15/06) Multiple hook rigs maybe used.

Example: "Jiggy's Rig"

For the upcoming season your Awards Committee will be reviewing all IGFA rules for changes or exemptions that may
better serve our club and the way we fish. To date we currently have two exemptions: wire line and multi hook rigs.

Any member having suggestions, your committee would like your input. Kindly address all suggestions to

Captainlarry84@aol.com. You will get a response.

Please come to our September GM to be recognized for your outstanding achievements in the art of sport fishing. No
other club does it better that we do!

Freeport Tuna Club, Inc.
Chartered to Promote
Sport-fishing & Conservation

2006 Officers

- James Rooney..... President
- Chris Squeri.....1st Vice President
- Joseph Jahn.....2nd Vice President
- Mike Sullivan Treasurer
- Chris Bellinzeni.....Secretary



Post Office Box 5
Freeport, New York 11520

Deliver To:



**MEETING
CHANGE
Wednesday
October 11th
7:30 pm
WESTWIND
YACHT CLUB
Bedell St.
Freeport**

CLASSIFIED:

- 1 28x23^{1/4} 3 blade nibril prop. like new condition, reasonably priced 516-632-9770.
- 1974 26 ft stamas twin 190 hp mercruisers freshwater cooled 25 kt completely upgraded 2000 18,000 Hank Lunde 516.739.0833
- DOCK SPACE AVAILABLE: 26' to 28' boat, deep water canal, nearby inlet see Sy 516-632-9770
- FOR SALE 1985 11" Boston Whaler Tender with 20 hp Evinrude and trailer. Very good condition, motor runs well. In storage for 8 years. \$1800. Contact Charlie at 516-655-1255.
- FISHERMAN WANTED: Alaska - Salmon, Halibut 7/507 to 7/12/07 3 spots open
Panama - Marlin Sails Tuna, Tropic Star Lodge 8/11/07 to 8/16/07 - 3 spots open
- FOR INFO CALL DENNIS CATALDO - 516-753-5433
- FLOATING DOCK FOR SALE, DOCK SPACE FOR RENT CONTACT SY KARP: 632-9770.
- 15 H.P. JOHNSON OUTBOARD – 1974 – LOW HOURS – WORKS WELL STORED INDOORS \$125 - CALL CHARLIE 516-223-0214

